

Conquer Transylvania's Alps - code Ro6.2RoHi

Challenging, tough - the Southern Carpathians won't give in that easily! You'll have to conquer them step by step, ridge by ridge up to the highest peak in Romania! Walk on the edge, and confront the bloody Count in his Kingdom - a rewarding victory for you in the end! One of the few tours in which the mountains are crossed from west to east in order to minimise the number of climbs!



DAY 1 Medias - Negoiu Hut

Tourists arrive by train in Medias. Our guide welcomes you and offers you a tour of the medieval centre of the town. Drive by car up to the foot of the highest mountains in Romania - Fagaras, above Porumbacu de Sus village the point where we no longer use the car. Prepare for hiking and walk up to Negoiu hut (altitude 1546 m) for accommodation.

DAY 2 Negoiu Hut - Negoiu Peak - Caltun Lake - Capra Lake - Balea Lake Hut

From the secondary ridge on which the hut is located we'll walk up to the main ridge and then continue the road to Negoiu peak, the second in altitude in Romania (2535 m). From here descend on Doamnei Clough or on the chains in Devil's Clough. After Caltun Lake we head to Balea Lake for accommodation in the hut.

DAY 3 Balea Lac Hut - Capra Lake - Dragon Window - Podragu Hut

From Balea Lake we walk up to Capra Lake. From the north side of Fagaras Mountains we move to the south side, we will walk near by the most difficult winter mountaineering route from Romania, the Albota - Arpasel ridge and then "Dragon Window". Go around Podragu Peak and head for the hut for accommodation.

DAY 4 Podragu Hut - Moldoveanu Peak - Fereastră Mare a Sambetei - Valea Sambetei Hut (1401 m)

Today we'll climb the highest peak in Romania - Moldoveanu (2544 m)! From Podragu hut we walk up by Giurgiului Bridge to Moldoveanu Peak and then continue our road on the main ridge up to Fereastră Mare a Sambetei, descend of Fagaras ridge on Sambetei valley for accommodation.

DAY 5 Valea Sambetei Hut - Fagaras Citadel - Curmătura Hut (1450 m altitude)

Our last day in Fagaras Mountains! From the hut we walk to Sambata Resort from where we continue the road by bus to Fagaras town, to visit this capital of Fagaras County. Our next stop is in the Piatra Craiului Mountains, the bus takes us to the point called Botorog's Well. We then walk up to Curmătura Hut, in the heart of the mountains for accommodation.

DAY 6 Curmătura Hut - Ascutitul Peak - La Om Peak - Grind Refuge - Curmătura Hut

Today we'll explore the entire Piatra Craiului ridge. We ascend to the main ridge on a very difficult route with steep paths and conquer Ascutit Peak (alt. 2150 m). We continue with the highest and most spectacular peak in Piatra Craiului Mountains - "La Om" peak (alt. 2238 m). Return to the hut.

DAY 7 Curmătura Hut - Botorog's Well - Rasnov - Bran

We leave behind Piatra Craiului Mountains and travel by bus to Rasnov Peasant Citadel, then stop in Bran to visit the famous Castle tied to bloody Count Dracula's name. Accommodation in a country-inn located on the same mountain with the castle. A leisure afternoon at your disposal!

DAY 8 Bran - Poarta Valley - Gaurei Gorges - Omu Peak (alt. 2505 m) - Omu Hut

From the accommodation we ascend to the highest peak of Bucegi Mountains - "Omu" (alt. 2505 m), a megalith shaped as a human head. From Bran we walk to "Poarta Valley", crossing the imposing "Gaurei" Gorges also called "Delvil's Mill" and arrive to "Hornurilor" Shed from where the view is breath taking. Accommodation in a hut located almost on the "Omu" peak.

DAY 9 Omu Hut - Babele Hut - Busteni - Sinaia

Today we walk on the edge of the steep eastern wall of Bucegi Mountains full of mountaineering routes, arrive to "Babele" hut, and descend using the telecabin on the spectacular Jepilor Valley in Busteni. From here we drive to Sinaia Resort and visit Peles Castle, the most beautiful royal palace in Romania. Depart for Budapest.

JOINING INFORMATION:

To reach the meeting point in Romania we suggest the following routes:

By plane to Budapest - Departure: 15.05 London (LHR) - 18.30 Budapest (Ferihegy), British Airways 868

Return: 08.15 Budapest - 10.00 London (LHR), British Airways 865

By train to Romania - Departure: 23.00 Budapest Keleti - 08.30 Medias, Train 347 Vienna - Bucharest

Return: 18.34 Sinaia - 05.17 Budapest Keleti, Train 346 Bucharest - Vienna

How to get from the Airport in Budapest to the railway station:

1. Common Transportation: take the "Reptér" (airport) bus from the airport to the last station "Kőbánya Kispest", then take the subway number 3 and travel to "Deák tér" station and then take the subway number 2 to "Keleti pályaudvar" station East Railway station.
2. By "Airport Minibus" about 10 EURO / person
3. Taxi "Fotaxi" (16 EURO), Tel.: 2-222-222 or "City Taxi" (16 EURO), Tel.: 2-111-111

The price includes:

Accommodations, the transfers by microbus/car, guide services (and the good advices), entry fees to: Peles Castle, Bran Castle, Rasnov Citadel, Fagaras Citadel, the telecabin from Babele Hut to Busteni, maxi-taxi from Busteni to Sinaia

ACCOMMODATION:

Most of the accommodations are in mountain huts, with a fine position that helps shorten the route between accommodations. Some of them have no bathrooms and have outdoor toilets. In case of late booking the accommodation places could be hostel style dormitory (more than 10 beds) but not for more than 3 nights

TRANSPORTS:

in Romania all transfers from/to the Railway Station (the meeting point) to the walking routes are provided.

Not included: all the meals, the plane ticket, the train ticket.

Level and Fitness: 15-25 km walking, 1500-2500 m altitude difference, the walking is mainly on mountain paths.

What do you have to bring: hiking boots, raincoat, sleeping bag, cloth for cold and worm days, flash light, penknife, lighter.

Attention: you'll have to carry personally your equipment, so please limit your self to one big rucksack.

Special notes: The itinerary is flexible and could be changed due to bad weather conditions, fitness and other local conditions. In case of accident, the Salvamont will transport the injury person to the nearest car accessible location to be peaked by the Emergency Service.

Discover Western and Northern Carpathians - code Hu6.1RoHi

Discover the wildest mountains in Romania - Apuseni and Maramuresului! Untouched by civilisation, unchanged by human hand, these areas truly are a nest of legends. The view is breath taking, depicted from a fairy tale: ice cave, wild gorges, an old gold mine and the powerful ox.

DAY 1 Budapest - Oradea - Arieseni

Tourists are peaked up at the airport in Budapest, travel across the Hungarian "Pusztá" and are welcomed by our English speaking guide in Oradea. Drive to Apuseni Mountains to "Motzilor Land" for accommodation in country-inns in Arieseni.

DAY 2 Arieseni - Scarisoara Ice Cave - Poarta lui Ionele Cave - Rusty Pit - Arieseni

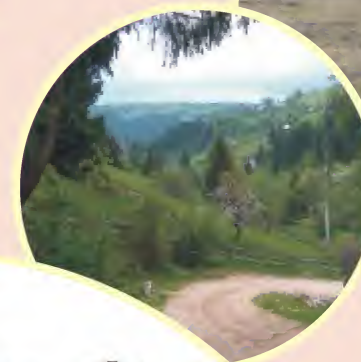
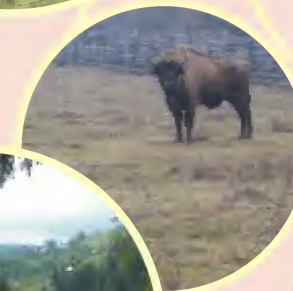
Walk by foot in the morning to Scarisoara Cave, the biggest ice cave in Eastern Europe, then visit Poarta lui Ionele Cave and head to Rusty Pit, the deepest ground slide in Romania. Return to accommodation in Arieseni.

DAY 3 Arieseni - Rosia Montana - Brad - Hunedoara - Hateg - Deva

Drive to Rosia Montana, the old centre of gold mining. Our next stop is The Museum of Gold in Brad, then travel to Hunedoara to visit Corvinestilor Castle and the Ox Reservation in Hateg. Drive to Deva, visit the citadel and accommodate.

DAY 4 Deva - Alba Iulia - Ramet Gorges - Coltesti Citadel - Rimetea

Alba Iulia Citadel is the first tourist attraction today. Travel to Ramet, explore the gorges then drive to Coltesti crossing Valisoarei Gorges and entering the romantic Trascau Depression. Discover the ruins of the old citadel in Coltesti, and then drive to Rimetea for accommodation in country-inns.



DAY 5 Rimetea - Posaga - Salciua - Turzii's Gorges - Cluj

Drive to Posaga to explore and wonder in a real fairy garden "Scarita Belioara" Reservation. Head to Salciua and visit "Huda lui Papara", the biggest cave in Trascau Mountains. Turzii Gorges Reservation, with its high walls of more than 200 m is our next target. Drive to Cluj Napoca for accommodation.

DAY 6 Cluj - Bistrita - Dracula Castle - Sacel - Ieud

Travel to Borgo Pass to visit the castle where the bloody count Dracula was placed and imagined. Cross Bistrita and Setref Pass to enter "Maramuresului County". Stop to make the acquaintance of the famous wood-craftsman Grigore Tulean. Drive to Ieud for accommodation in country-inns.

DAY 7 Ieud - Gutai - Sighet - Sapanta - Satu Mare

Drive to Gutai Pass, and then walk to the famous "Rooster Ridge". Travel to Sighetu Marmatiei to visit the Communist Prison. Discover how a cemetery can be merry while visiting the "Merry Cemetery" in Sapanta and also visit here the highest wood church in Romania. Drive to Satu Mare for accommodation.

DAY 8 Satu Mare - Budapest

Departure to Budapest Airport.

JOINING INFORMATION:

We recommend the following flights:

Departure: 8.25 London (LHR) - 11.50 Budapest, British Airways 868

Return: 19.35 Budapest - 21.15 London (LHR), British Airways 867

Highlights: Scarisoara Ice Cave, Rusty Pit, Rosia Montana, Roman's Drifts, The Museum of Gold in Brad, Corvinestilor Castle, The Ox Reservation in Hateg, Deva Citadel, Ramet Gorges, Coltesti Citadel, Rimetea Village, Scarita Belioara, Huda lui Papara Cave, Turzii Gorges Reservation, Dracula's Castle in Borgo Pass, The Craftsman in Sacel, Rooster Ridge, The Communist Prison, The Monument of Imprisoned Thoughts, The Merry Cemetery.

Module: We could arrange a Budapest city tour if an extra day arranged with individual accounts is added to the tour.

The price includes:

accommodations, all transfers including from/to Budapest Airport, guide services (and the good advices), entry fees to the mentioned tourist attractions, 7 breakfasts and 2 dinners.

ACCOMMODATION:

3 nights in 2* and 4 nights in country-inns.

TRANSPORT:

By microbus or car, depending on the number of travellers.
The baggage transportation is provided by the microbus for the entire tour.

Not included: plane ticket, airport fees.

Lunches arranged with personal choices and individual accounts.
In day 2,4,5 and 7 you'll have to pack your lunch.

Level and fitness: This route contains 5-10 km walking per day, 100-500 m altitude difference; the walking is mainly on mountain paths.

Price example: - mineral water: 1,5 l - 1,8 RON (0,36 POUND)
- warm tea: 200 ml - 1 RON (0,19 POUND)
- warm lunch or dinner: 20 - 30 RON (3,8 - 5,7 POUND)